

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMENDING PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT WITH RESPECT TO NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Benjamin Disraeli once exclaimed, "The health of the people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness and all their powers as a state depend."

Rooted in this reality, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lead vital public health initiatives to prevent and control infectious and chronic disease, injuries, workplace hazards, disabilities, and environmental health threats. However, the effectiveness of its work depends on its strong partnerships with other organizations, notably, the National Foundation for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The National Foundation was founded by Congress in 1995 to bridge outside resources and partners with CDC scientists, and it has greatly enhanced the CDC's impact in such areas as global health, anti-microbial resistance, the obesity epidemic, healthy aging, and emergency preparedness and response. Most recently, the foundation created the Emergency Preparedness & Response Fund. This fund will provide the CDC with resources it needs for rapid response to large-scale public health emergencies, such as terrorist attacks or an avian flu pandemic. Given this organization's immeasurable contribution to national public health initiatives, I urge members to support S. 655. This bill proposes increased funding for grants to the foundation, allows for more voluntary service to the CDC by foundation individuals, and permits the CDC Director to provide facilities, utilities, and support services to the foundation if doing so is advantageous to CDC programs and the American people. Provisions of this bill will indeed strengthen the CDC and National Foundation's partnership and result in better public health outcomes for our Nation.

Thomas Carlyle once said, "He who has health, has hope, and he who has hope has everything." Let us ensure that we do everything in our power to improve the health status of our people. In doing so, we will most certainly ensure the productivity and fruitfulness of their lives.

CONGRATULATING THE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Mental Health Center of Champaign County on the celebration of its 50th anniversary.

The Champaign County Mental Health Clinic opened its doors 50 years ago as a program of the Champaign County Mental Health Society. On July 22, 1968, the Mental Health Center became incorporated and changed its name to the Mental Health Center of Champaign County. Throughout its years of service to the community, the Mental Health Center has continually expanded mental health services to meet the needs of the public.

The Mental Health Center of Champaign County is committed to providing critical mental health services to the community. Since its inception, the Mental Health Center has provided residential, outpatient, school-based, and 24-hour crisis services to promote the recovery, awareness, and the understanding of mental health and related illnesses.

The citizens of the 15th district and I are very proud of the Mental Health Center of Champaign County for their continued efforts to provide quality services to those in need of them. We look forward to a prosperous future in which the Mental Health Center will continue its dedication to mental health services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Mental Health Center of Champaign County on its 50th anniversary of service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 91, NO. 137 AND AUXILIARY UNIT NO. 91

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize the American Legion Post No. 91 and Auxiliary Unit No. 91 in Romney, WV, and Post No. 137 in Capon Bridge, WV. Both are located in my district, Hampshire County.

Post No. 91 has a long tradition of monthly meetings since 1920, sponsoring strong child and youth programs, and flying flags on holidays such as Memorial Day, Flag Day, the Fourth of July, and Hampshire Heritage days. Post Commander Madeline Shallcross has boosted membership to 450 members.

Auxiliary Unit No. 91 is led by 7-year President Diana Haines. Founded in 1926 with only 22 members, it has now grown to be part of the third largest unit in the State. The 435

members volunteer and maintain the expense of the Hampshire County Library. In 1926, the auxiliary assisted the Legion in designing an honor roll plaque for the World War I servicemen of Hampshire County.

Post No. 137 has an active membership of 400 in Capon Bridge, WV. Post Commander Bob Brasher is assisted by President Sally Reid and Larry LaFollette, head of the Sons of the Legion group.

Each of these organizations provides a venue for fellowship, volunteerism, and patriotism. The service each member has given to their Nation and community shall be forever cherished and represented.

PENCE CALLS ON CONGRESS TO STAND FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, in the coming days, Congress will consider legislation to make taxpayer dollars available for what is known as embryonic stem cell research.

Stating the case for an imminent presidential veto, in 2001 President Bush made the moral dimensions of scientific testing on human embryos clear.

These are the principles: It is morally wrong to create human life to destroy it for research. Also, it is morally wrong to take the tax dollars of millions of pro-life Americans and use them to finance research that they find morally objectionable. The choice of our time was described millennia ago: "See, I set before you blessings and curses, life and death. Now choose life that you and your children may live." I urge my colleagues to stand for the sanctity of life at every level. Stand with President George W. Bush. Reject taxpayer funding of human embryo research.

ANNIVERSARY OF ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise in celebration of the trailblazing work done by Advancement Via Individual Determination. Twenty-five years ago, Mary Catherine Swanson founded an organization rooted in the belief that, if the desire to go to college is met with a willingness to work hard, then those students who are capable of completing a rigorous curriculum but are falling short of their potential can realize their desire if schools provide them with the necessary tools.

AVID expands opportunities to those students who have traditionally been neglected

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

by the system. AVID is changing the belief system of entire communities by showing that low-income and minority students can achieve at the highest levels and succeed in college. In 2004–2005, 49.4 percent of AVID students were Hispanic and 17 percent were black. The success of these students is critical to closing the achievement gap.

In Chicago is a legendary educator named Marva Collins. She argues, “When we cease destroying [students’] self-esteem by making them doubt their abilities and leading them to believe that their worth is unimportant and valueless, we shall see the poor student become a good student, and the good student become a superior student. Creating doubt in the mind erases self-esteem and self-value.”

We have put hurdle after hurdle in front of our students, but we have forgotten to teach them how to jump. We expect them to demonstrate what they have learned in school, but we have not taught them to read. We expect them to go to college and get a job, but we have not given them the learning skills they need to graduate from high school, much less college. In the absence of a college-going tradition in their families and communities, how can we be surprised that students are not meeting our unrealistic expectations? Teaching organizational and study skills, working on critical thinking, providing tutors, and creating enrichment and motivational activities, AVID has challenged all of us to examine the lessons we are teaching our children.

AVID has reminded all of us to stop blaming the victims of an education system in crisis, and it has realized tremendous success rates. In 2004–2005, 75.1 percent of AVID graduates were accepted to 4-year colleges. 99.1 percent of AVID students graduated from high school, compared to 70 percent nationally. While 36 percent of students completed the 4-year college entrance requirement nationally, a staggering 86.7 percent of AVID students did so.

Ms. Collins reminds us: “Our children and parents surrender themselves to those who are identified as protectors, but who actually destroy them. Children come to school to get what they lack, and they are told, instead, all the things they cannot do. We, the educators, [—and indeed I believe the politicians—] should be the hope of our children. We should be their insurance against the dark side of failure and mediocrity, and, far too many times, we cancel that insurance by labeling them ‘At Risk students.’ They come to be complete and far too many schools split them in halves.”

I commend and thank all of the men and women that have contributed to AVID’s success over the past 25 years—empowering students to make responsible decisions and contribute positively to society.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
ROBERT LUTHER

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the career of retiring Lake Land College President Robert K. Luther. Dr. Luther concluded his exceptionally accomplished 18-year tenure on June 30, 2006.

Before coming to Lake Land, Dr. Luther served on Governor Jim Edgar’s Integration of Workforce Education task force and Governor George Ryan’s Illinois Workforce Investment Board. Upon arriving at the college, Dr. Luther faced many challenges in reforming and improving the college’s educational system and atmosphere, including reversing a substantial budget deficit and shrinking student enrollment, as well as beautifying a deteriorating campus.

Today, the college operates on a stable budget and is considered one of the most beautiful places in central Illinois, but Dr. Luther considers his greatest accomplishment to be increasing the college’s headcount enrollment by 113 percent since his arrival.

Dr. Luther has helped to create many of Lake Land College’s successful off-campus programs. Lake Land is the largest provider of postsecondary education to correctional centers in the State of Illinois, and the college now offers over 160 online courses. In addition, Dr. Luther has been an exceptional fundraiser, increasing Lake Land’s annual scholarship fund six fold, from \$50,000 to \$300,000.

Citizens of the 15th District of Illinois honor Dr. Luther for his innovation and leadership at Lake Land College. He has done a great service to our community and greater central Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the career of Lake Land College President Robert K. Luther.

TRIBUTE TO 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LONDON POST OFFICE
OF LONDON, WV

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the London Post Office in London, WV. Despite 15 postmasters and three different buildings it remains a center of activity for the community.

The first location for the post office was in a building near the railroad tracks, and it was later housed in a general store that burned down in 1989. The current post office now sits on the same piece of land as the two previous ones. This landmark has become an anchor of the community for social gatherings and town news.

Chip Frame is the current postmaster and has worked there for 9 years. Even with an hour commute, the family atmosphere and friendly community make it worth the drive for him.

ISRAEL

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last month Israel was provoked when Hamas terrorists kidnapped CPL. Gilad Shalit, an Israeli soldier, manning and checkpoint. This was an unprovoked act of terror—act of war—against Israel by Hamas—which also controls the Palestinian Authority government.

As long as Hamas embraces terrorism and refuses to acknowledge the right of Israel to exist, terrorists will persist in the Palestinian lands.

Earlier this week, Hizballah kidnapped two Israeli soldiers in Northern Israel. Israel has responded in an effort to rescue these soldiers and diminish the ability to Hizballah to launch missiles into Israeli population centers.

I rise to express support for our ally, Israel, as it deals with yet more terrorist acts . . . the kidnapping of its soldiers during late June and the continuing barrage of rockets launched at Israeli citizens from Gaza and Lebanon.

The kidnapping of the Israeli soldiers can certainly be considered a provocation of war.

Unfortunately, Israel’s withdrawal from the Gaza strip has not led to a positive transformation of Palestinian politics or more security for the Israeli people.

Likewise, Israel’s withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 2000—which was certified by the United Nations—has failed to provide peace for Israelis living in northern Israel. Since Israel’s 2000 withdrawal, Hizballah has fired hundreds of rockets targeting Israeli civilians. Over the past year, Hizballah has carried out four major attacks into Israel in an effort to harm Israeli citizens.

Israel exhausted all non-military means to get its soldier released by Hamas before it called for these military actions.

The Hamas-led Palestinian Authority is failing the Palestinian people by giving comfort to terrorists.

It is imperative that we provide Israel with continued and broad-based support since an even greater destabilizing force is developing in the region—a nuclear-armed Iran with terrorist allies in Hizballah and Hamas.

IN RECOGNITION OF EMILY
LAWRIMORE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, with the continuity of a Congressional session, there is a normal shuffling of staff positions. Today, it is with mixed emotions that I announce the departure of Emily Lawrimore.

For the past year and a half, Emily has held one of the most difficult jobs on Capitol Hill—serving as the Communications Director for the Second Congressional District. Emily has handled her position with professionalism, grace, and integrity. Her dedication and work ethic will be difficult to replace.

Emily began her career in Washington as a member of Congressman CHARLIE NORWOOD’s staff. She leaves the halls of Congress tomorrow to become Assistant Press Secretary for President George W. Bush. I am confident that Emily will be a welcome addition to the President’s press office.

A graduate of Clemson University, Emily Lawrimore is one of two children of Marshall and Cindy Lawrimore of Columbus, Georgia. She is a credit to the people of South Carolina and Georgia, and I wish her Godspeed.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11.